



Restoration Partnerships



Fish and Wildlife Service
Partnerships with the
Corps of Engineers

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FWS Ecosystem Approach

Fish and Wildlife Service Mission:

“Working with others, to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.”

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FWS Ecosystem Approach

**Ecosystems
include:**

- **living organisms**
- **physical surroundings**
- **natural cycles**

**Why work on
Ecosystems?**

- **Comprehensive**
- **Health of all biota**
- **Watershed-based**



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FWS Ecosystem Approach

North American
Coastal
Law Enforcement
Refuges
Fishery Resources
Partners for Fish
and Wildlife
Ecological Services
Hatcheries
Endangered Species

All Service's field units in a watershed combine forces to tackle projects, improving efficiency and effectiveness

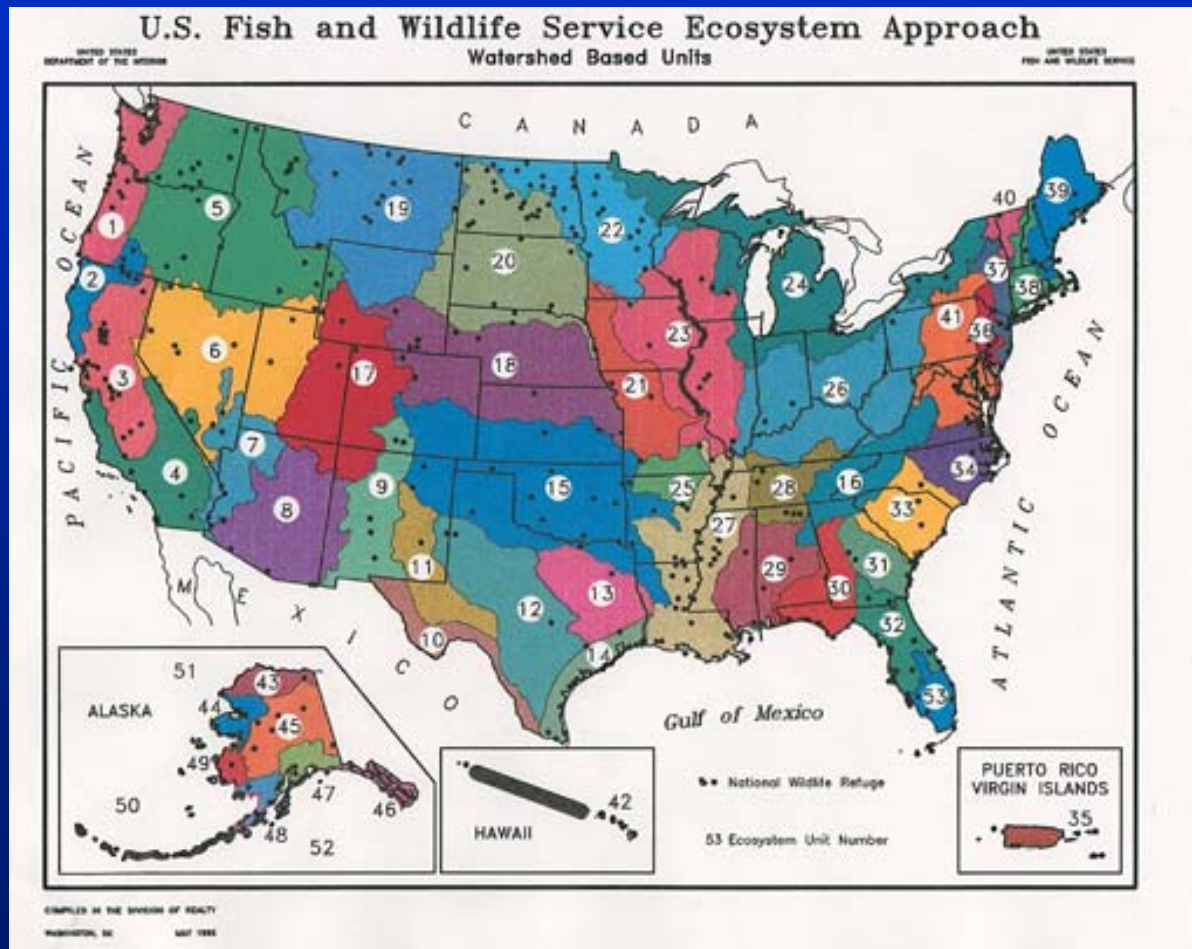
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FWS Ecosystem Approach

53 Ecosystem Units

- 41 in lower 48 states
- 10 in Alaska
- 2 in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands



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FWS Ecosystem Approach

A major key to success is

PARTNERSHIPS

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FWS Ecosystem Approach

North American
Refuges
Fishery Resources
Hatcheries
Coastal
Law Enforcement
Partners for Fish
and Wildlife
Ecological Services
Endangered Species

All Service field units in a watershed are involved in restoration projects of one kind or another.

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Restoration Projects

FWS Restoration Projects Include:

- **Wetlands Restoration**
- **Streambank Revegetation/Riparian Restoration**
- **Aquatic Habitat**
- **Moist Soil Management**
- **Forest Restoration and Replanting**
- **Instream Flow**
- **Water Temperature and Quality**
- **Fish Passage**

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Restoration Projects

FWS Partners With:

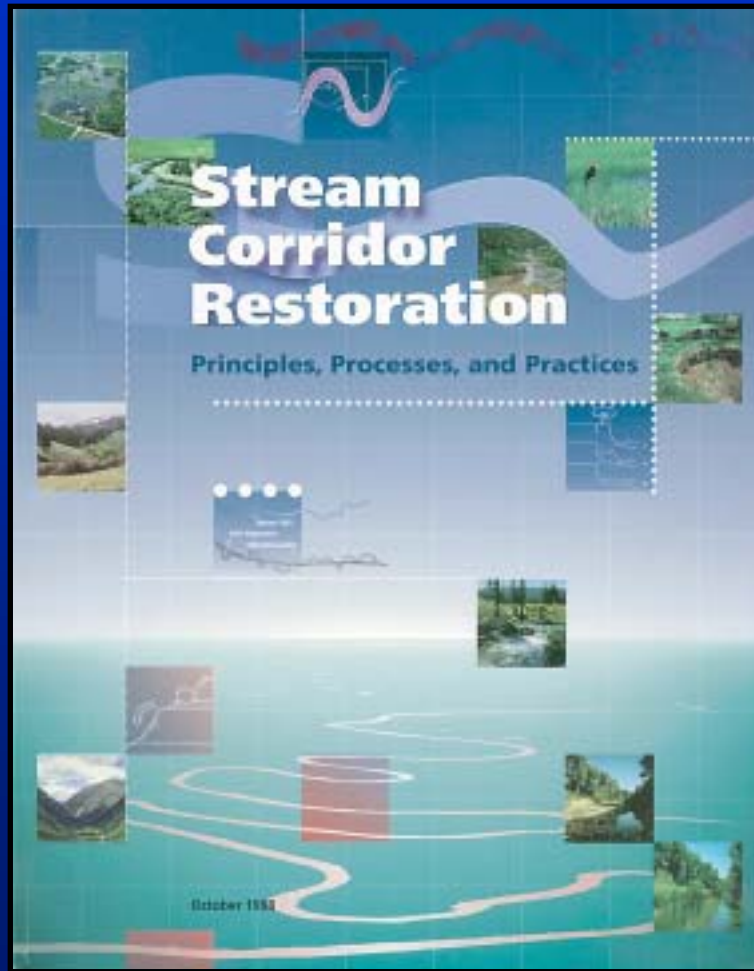
- ✓ **Federal agencies**
- ✓ **State agencies**
- ✓ **Conservation organizations**
- ✓ **Industry**
- ✓ **Local organizations**
- ✓ **Other stakeholders**

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Restoration Projects

Other Partnering Efforts



- ✓ Collaborative effort of 15 Federal agencies
- ✓ Provides stream corridor restoration technology
- ✓ Restore functions and values of stream corridors

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Partnerships with the Corps

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

Special Authorities (1135, 204, etc.)

Challenge 21

Increasing Partnership Opportunities

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Partnerships with the Corps

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

- **Equal consideration of fish and wildlife**
- **Coordination with the FWS**
- **Service reports & recommendations**
- **Transfer of funds to FWS for investigations and reports**
- **Early involvement as a partner**

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Partnerships with the Corps

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

National Transfer Funding Agreement

- **Corps goes to FWS first for FWCA information**
- **Close formal and informal coordination**
- **Funds for FWS work included in Corps budget**
- **Detailed Scopes of Work and budget for FWS work**
- **Corps to keep FWS informed on studies, projects and funding for FWS involvement**

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Partnerships with the Corps

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

Issues Affecting Better Partnerships

- 1. FWS should be treated as a full planning team member .**
- 2. FWS should be involved early in the planning process.**
- 3. Insure that adequate coordination occurs**
- 4. Timely provision of project data and notification of project changes**

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Partnerships with the Corps

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

Issues Affecting Better Partnerships

- 5. FWS right of first refusal for FWCA work**
- 6. Insure adequate funds for FWCA work through budget process**



Partnerships with the Corps

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

Missed Opportunities

Several MR&T Projects are examples of missed wetland restoration opportunities

- **Yazoo Backwater Pumps**
- **Big Sunflower River**
- **St. Johns/New Madrid Floodway**

Emphasis on structural to the exclusion of nonstructural solutions

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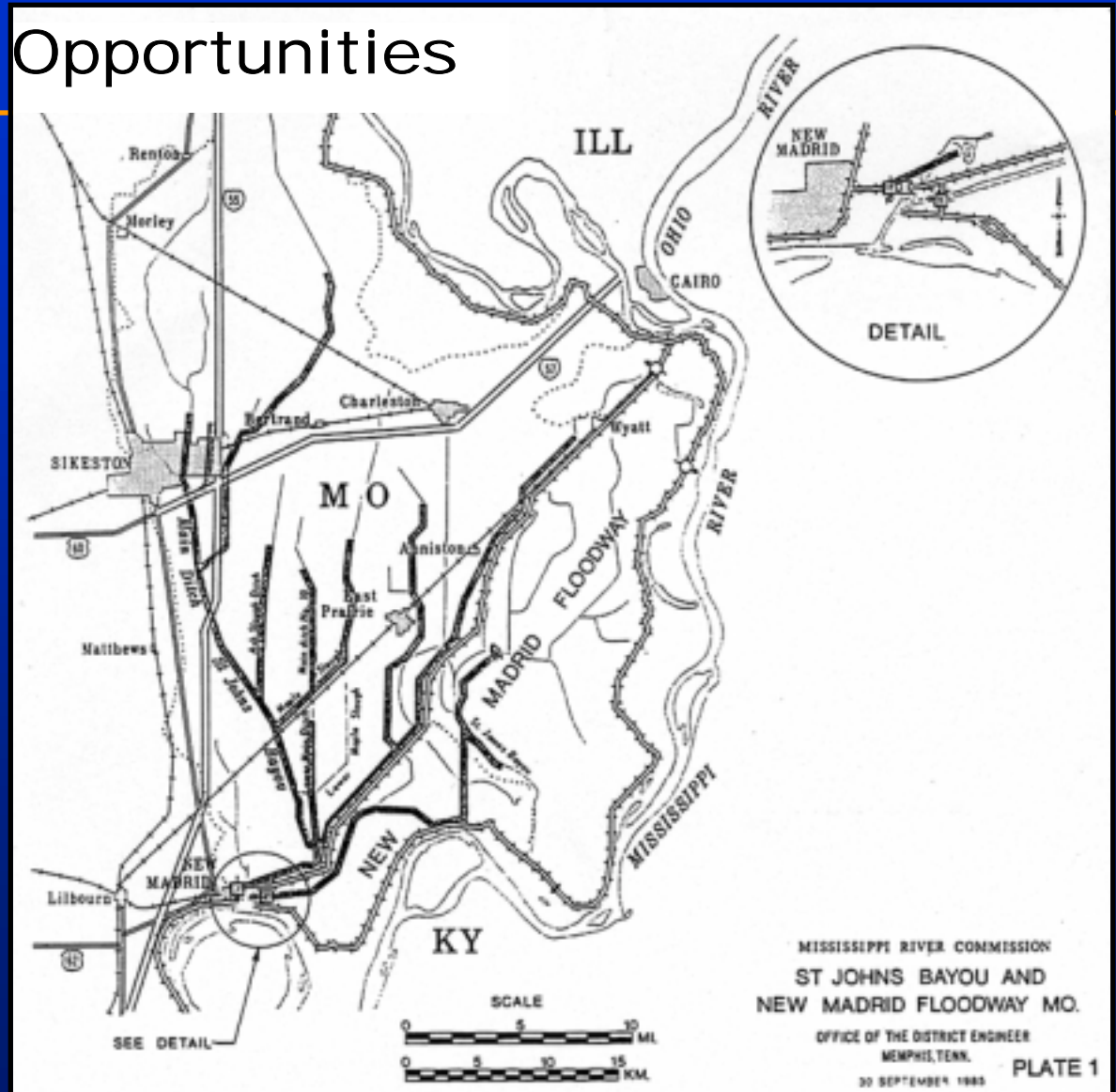
Partnerships with the Corps

Missed Opportunities

**Nonstructural adds
benefits through
restoration**

**Produces Economic
& environmental
gains**

**FWS will recommend
nonstructural methods
and a thorough
alternative analysis**



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Partnerships with the Corps

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

WRDA Restoration Authorities

Challenge 21

Increasing Partnership opportunities

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Partnerships with the Corps

WRDA Restoration Authorities

Major Restoration Authorities used in partnering with the Fish and Wildlife Service include:

- **204 – aquatic/wetlands habitat**
- **206 – aquatic ecosystem**
- **1135 - project modifications/retrofit mitigation**

Expand the opportunities for partnerships in restoration projects

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Partnerships with the Corps

FWS Coastal Program

Puget Sound Duwamish River Restoration Project



Turning Basin wetland restoration
Corps partners using Coastal
funding

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Partnerships with the Corps



**North American Waterfowl
Management Plan**

**Plan nord-américain de
gestion de la sauvagine**

**Plan de Manejo de Aves
Acuáticas de Norteamérica**

- **North American Waterfowl Management Joint Ventures implemented by North American Wetlands Conservation Act**
- **Corps is a partner in a number of Joint Venture Projects throughout the country**
- **Corps involvement under section 1135 and other authorities**

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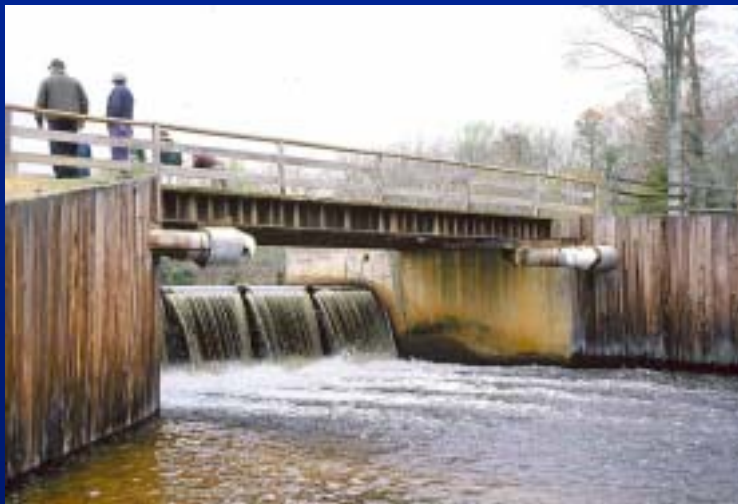
Partnerships with the Corps

Partners for Fish and Wildlife



Fish passage on New Jersey streams

Corps partners under sections 206 and 1135



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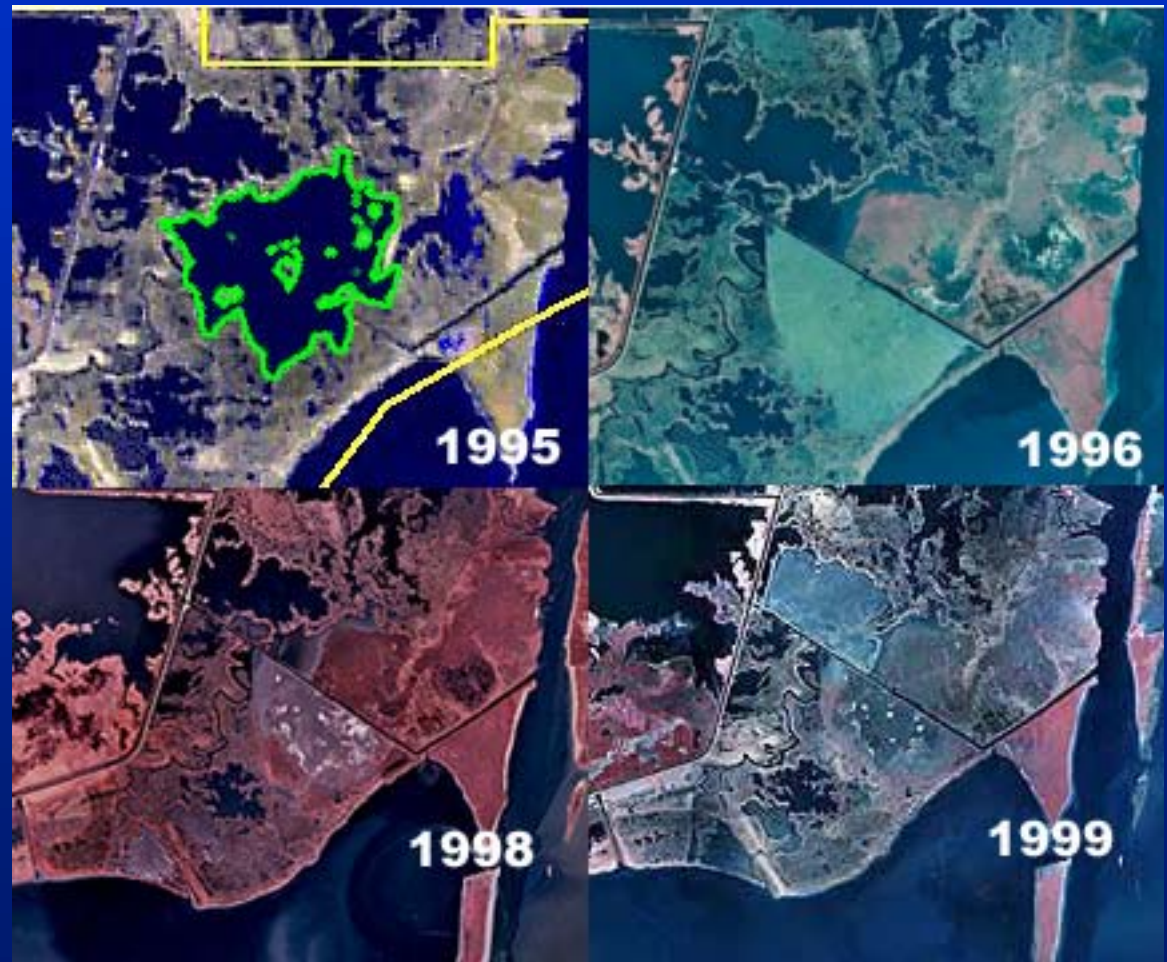
Partnerships with the Corps

National Wildlife Refuge System

Corps restoration projects used in conjunction with National Wildlife Refuges .

204 project at Sabine NWR, LA; dredged material to restore wetlands

Over 525 ac of marsh restored

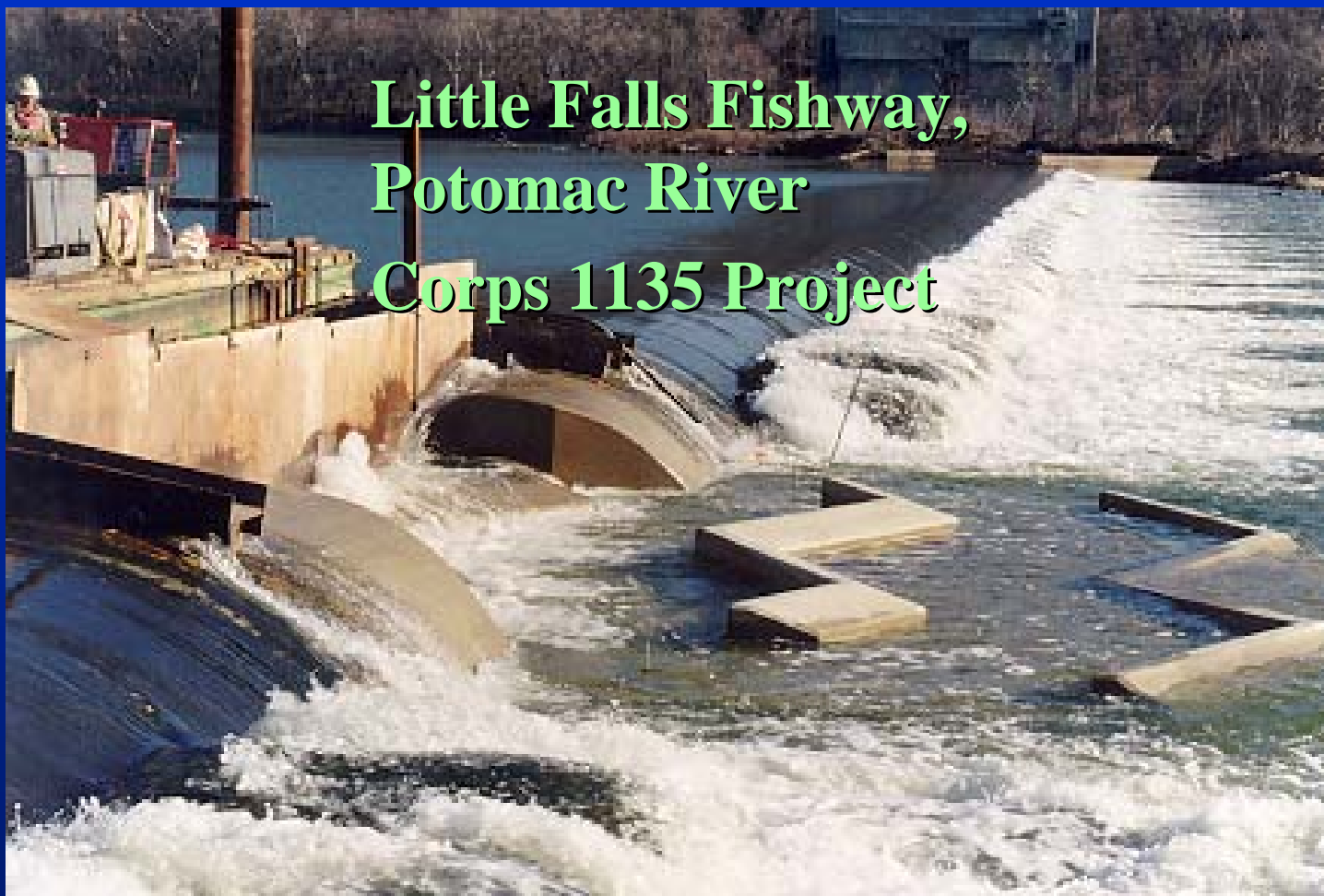


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Partnerships with the Corps

FWS Coastal Program



**Little Falls Fishway,
Potomac River
Corps 1135 Project**

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Partnerships with the Corps

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

WRDA Restoration Authorities

Challenge 21

Increasing Partnership opportunities

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Partnerships with the Corps

Challenge 21

Flood Mitigation and Riverine Restoration
Section 212, WRDA 1999

Reduce flood hazards and restore natural
functions and values of rivers

Emphasis on nonstructural approaches

In consultation with Federal, local & State
Agencies, and tribes

Increased partnership opportunity, once funded

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Partnerships with the Corps

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

WRDA Restoration Authorities

Challenge 21

Increasing Partnership opportunities

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Partnerships with the Corps

Increasing partnerships

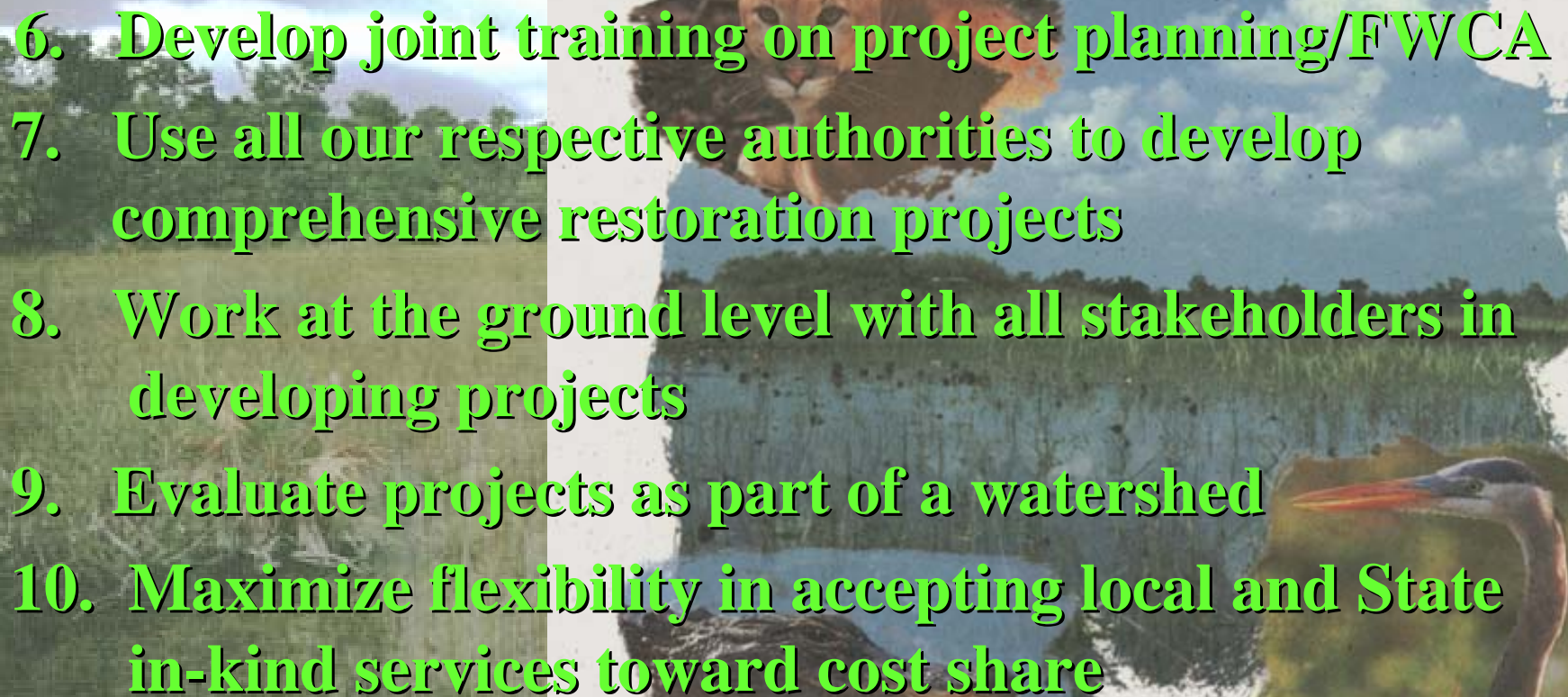
- 1. Improve Coordination**
- 2. Adhere to the provisions of the National Transfer Funding Agreement**
- 3. Consider bundling of transfer funds**
- 4. Involve the FWS in development of Operation and Maintenance Plans and Master Plans.**
- 5. Evaluate projects for unmet mitigation needs**

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Partnerships with the Corps

Increasing partnerships

- 
- A composite background image. On the left, a photograph of a grassy field under a cloudy sky. On the right, a painting of a cougar looking down at its reflection in a pond, with a wading bird (like a heron) in the foreground.
6. Develop joint training on project planning/FWCA
 7. Use all our respective authorities to develop comprehensive restoration projects
 8. Work at the ground level with all stakeholders in developing projects
 9. Evaluate projects as part of a watershed
 10. Maximize flexibility in accepting local and State in-kind services toward cost share

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Conservation Partnerships

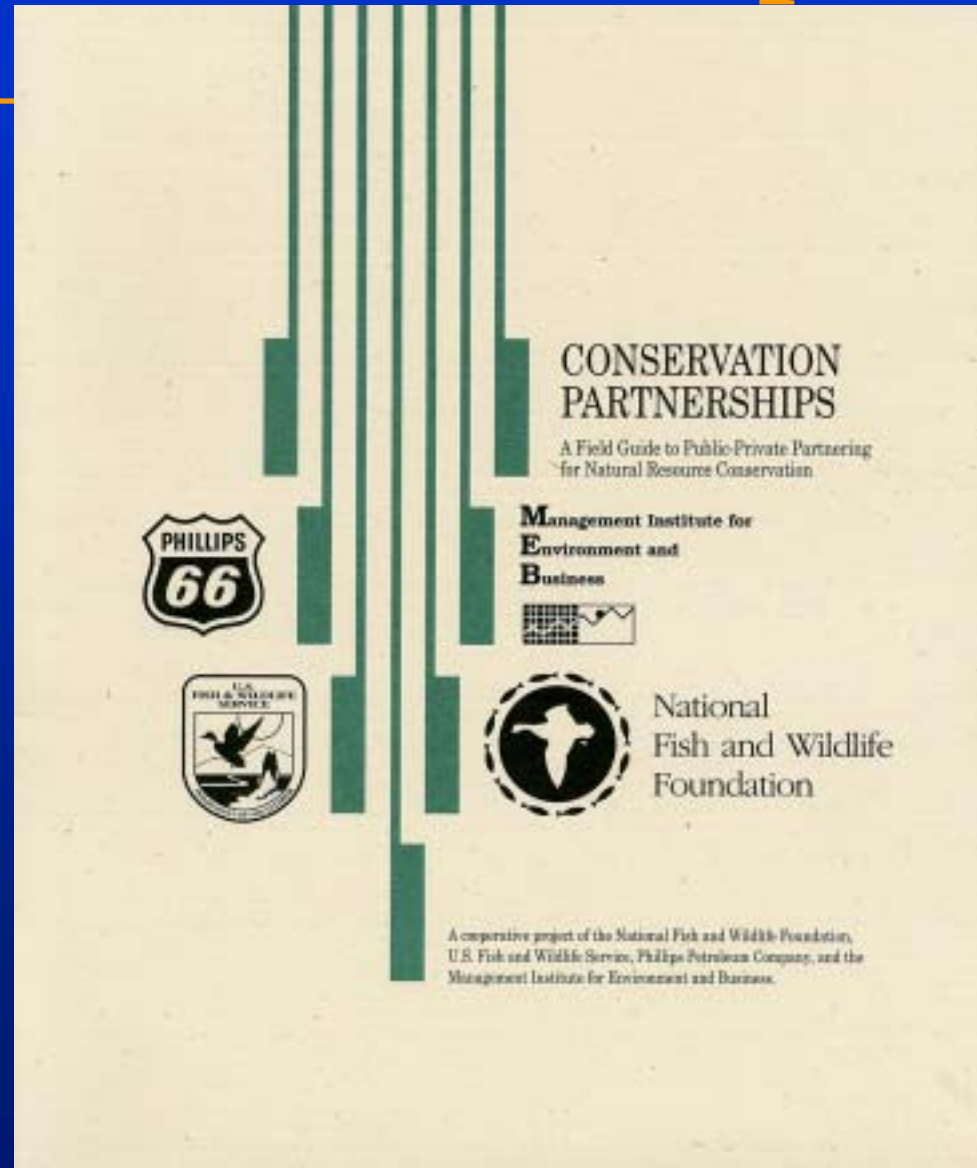
An Introduction to Partnerships:

Basic Concepts

Selecting projects

locating partners

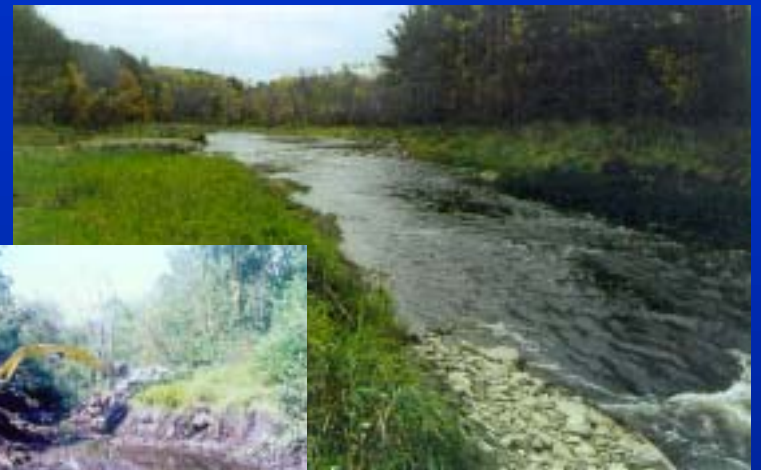
Success/complications



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Partnerships Work!





The Future of Successful Restorations
Lies in Effective Partnerships